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*Boston University*

# MedCenter Extra

BOSTON MEDICAL CENTER, BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOLS OF MEDICINE, PUBLIC HEALTH AND DENTAL MEDICINE

Feb. 5, 1999

## Plan for new ambulatory care facility moves forward

BMC's plans for constructing a new ambulatory care facility, which will help maintain and improve the quality of care provided to patients for many years to come, are moving forward.

The new facility is the focus of a construction and renovation project, which will create new space, modernize existing facilities, and remove some of the unusable vacant buildings, which currently form a physical barrier in the middle of the BMC campus. The new construction is slated to begin July 1999, with a projected completion date of March 2001.

The plan is progressive in its vision to bring together the entire medical campus and to integrate existing facilities with new construction. At the same time it is respectful of the neighborhood's past in re-establishing an important urban design relationship with the adjoining South End Landmark District. "Boston's South End has a rich and vibrant architectural history," said Elaine Ullian, president and chief executive officer. "We are working very closely with the local historical associations and preservation experts to retain the grandeur and architectural integrity of our neighborhood, while bringing its functionality into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century."

The new, state-of-the-art ambulatory care facility will be constructed in the space between the BCD and FGH buildings. The address will be 800 Harrison Ave. It will provide much-needed additional space for ambulatory and critical care, the areas of largest growth at BMC. "We are very excited about this new facility," said Richard Moed, executive vice president and chief operating officer. "We see it as a 'signature'

facility – one that will come to be recognized and associated with the exceptional quality of health care at Boston Medical Center."

The project will begin with the demolition of the Administration Building at 818 Harrison Ave. BMC's needs, both immediate and future, are for clinical space, which the Administration Building cannot provide. "By razing the Administration Building, we are able to clear space for the construction of the new ambulatory facility, while also re-opening the important sight lines from Worcester Square," said Moed.

Renovations to the BCD and FGH buildings also play important roles in the new plan. BCD has been vacant for 20 years and exterior stabilization and facade restoration work along with various interior repairs are needed. It is envisioned that the space will be used for clinics and doctors' offices.

The research, administrative and outpatient services currently housed in FGH will remain there after renovations are completed. Its rehabilitation plan includes exterior restoration and interior work, including the installation of new mechanical and electrical systems.

The proposal also calls for the demolition of the Thorndike, MRI and Sears buildings lining East Concord Street. With the removal of these buildings, the various small existing open spaces on each of the separate campuses will be combined to form a central unifying quadrangle. "The Thorndike, MRI and Sears buildings currently form a barrier between the East Newton and Harrison Ave. campuses," said Moed. "The demolition will create an open green space between the

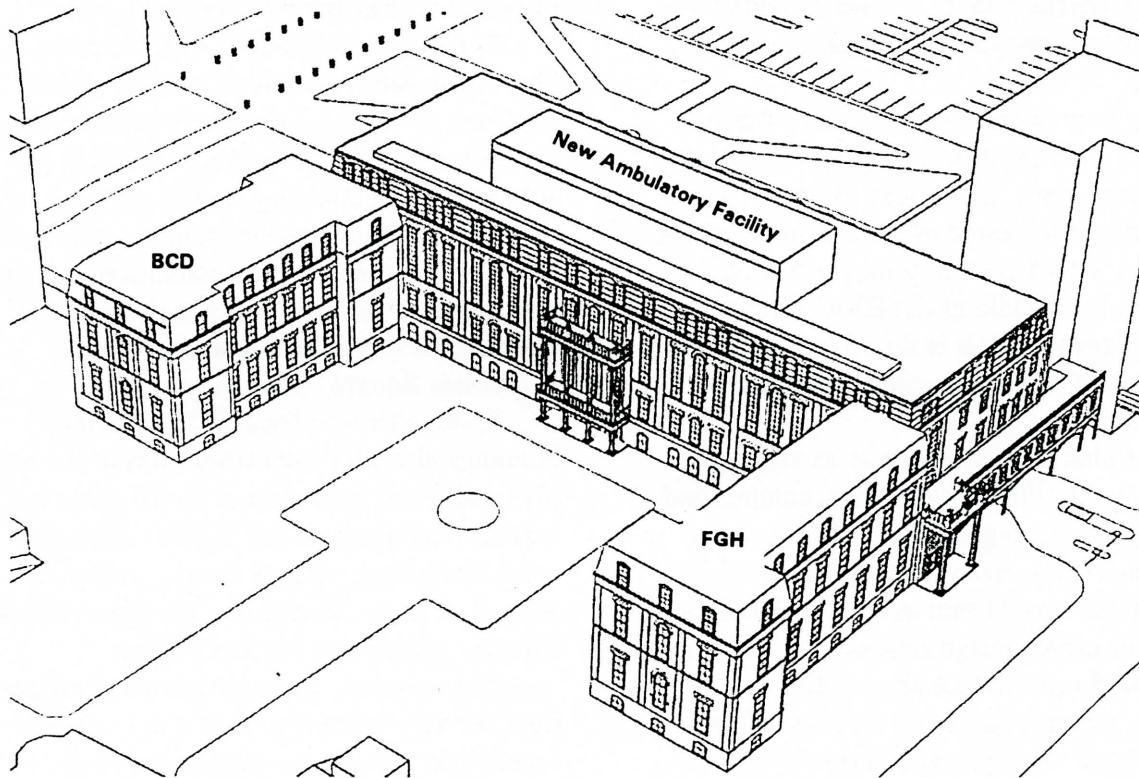
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Newton Pavilion and the Harrison Pavilion.”

The South End Landmark District Commission has requested that BMC further explore uses for the Surgical Building on East Concord Street. A proposal for the building will be presented to the commission in six months.

More information about the demolition and construction will be presented in forthcoming editions of *MedCenter News* and *MedCenter Extra*.

***An artist's rendering of the new ambulatory care facility***



**800 Harrison Avenue**